

STATUS OF CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1) (Cancelled)
- 13) (Currently Amended) A method of protecting ocular neural tissue from damage caused by electromagnetic irradiation of the retina comprising delivering to a patient's ocular neural tissue an amount of an alpha 2 selective agonist neuroprotectant compound effective to protect a plurality of ocular neurons from cell death as compared to ocular neuron cell death following such irradiation observed in the absence of the administration of said neuroprotectant.
- 14) (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said electromagnetic irradiation is laser irradiation.
- 15) (Cancelled)
- 16) (Cancelled).
- 17) (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective agonist is selected from the group consisting of brimonidine, clonidine and para-aminoclonidine.
- 18) (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said compound is brimonidine.
- 19) (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective adrenergic receptor agonist is an alpha 2B and/or alpha 2C selective agonist.
- 20) (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said alpha 2B and/or alpha 2C selective agonist is selected from the group consisting of AGN 960, AGN 795 and AGN 923.
- 21) (Original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 960.
- 22) (Original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 795.
- 23) (Original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 923.

24) (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective agonist
~~neuroprotectant compound~~ is administered at a time sufficiently before said electromagnetic
irradiation to permit localization within ocular tissue prior to said treatment.

25) (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective agonist
~~neuroprotectant compound~~ is administered following said electromagnetic irradiation.